

BUSINESS

The majority of the business land use within the corporate limits of Biscoe is located in the center of town. This central business area lies mainly along the east side of South Main Street (U. S. Highway 220) between East Main and Shamburger Streets, and along both sides of East Main Street (N. C. 24-27) for about a block and a half. There are a few businesses scattered along South Main Street below this central business area.

Within the corporate limits approximately five and one half acres are devoted to business use. This amounts to .6 percent of the total land area in town and 1.7 percent of the developed land therein. A comparison of Biscoe with other nearby municipalities shows only Star with a smaller percentage of land devoted to business and services (see Bar Graph on page 23).

A close inspection of this central business area in Biscoe reveals some rather disturbing facts. There are five vacant buildings in this area. Three of these are dilapidated and the other two are deteriorating. Several buildings that are in use present a rather poor appearance. Many of the businesses could be improved considerably. In short, the central business area of Biscoe does not present an overall attractive appearance to the potential shopper.

Another problem is the vacant space between businesses. The average shopper is not encouraged to do comparison shopping when forced to walk by unsightly vacant buildings and vacant lots to get from one business to another. Thus, if the determination is made to shop in Biscoe, the shopper is forced to move his car from one place to the next. With the lack of adequate parking, this adds to the congestion of traffic and increases the chance of cars and pedestrians being involved in accidents.

Most of the businesses in the central area front on either South Main Street (U. S. 220) or East Main Street (N. C. 24-27). With this heavy, fast moving traffic parking is dangerous in the few on-street parking spaces that exist. A paved off-street